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WARTIME WORK OF STATE EXTENSION SERVICES

(Digested From Reports of State Extension Directors)

Summary No. 16

June 27, 1942

ALABAMA (June 22).--White and Negro home demonstration agents have coordinated all phases of war program and long-time extension program, reaching 58,304 white farm women in 1,728 organized communities, and 10,536 Negro farm women in 702 communities. Goals of national committee on nutrition being taught and food production plan demonstration being conducted every county. All counties conducting canning, drying, brining, storing, and curing demonstrations as part food conservation program. Victory Garden program, with special emphasis on fall gardens, conducted throughout State.

Organized farm women have assisted in salvage programs, sales of bonds and stamps, Red Cross work, civilian defense activities, and other wartime community enterprises.

Remodeling, construction, storage, and care of clothing is basis for wartime clothing program.

4-H Club boys and girls taking active part in Victory program. Total amount of stamps and bonds bought by such members \$95,021.62; scrap iron collected 958 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons; number of Victory Gardens 33,595.

Care, repair, wise use all household equipment and furnishing, as well as use of substitutes, being stressed by home demonstration club women.

CONNECTICUT (June 11).--Neighborhood leader system being organized in counties. As first assignment, system has been asked to conduct garden and canning inventory. Simple form prepared for use Neighborhood Committeemen in interviewing their neighbors and obtaining essential information. Inventory to be completed July 15.

Completed series twilight meetings with farmers throughout State to discuss making silage from grass and legumes. Meetings well attended and farmers showed great interest.

Prepared statement for local rationing boards on amounts canned fruit to be had from a given quantity raw fruit. Will be used as guide by rationing boards in considering requests for sugar to be used in canning.

4-H Victory Corps campaign continuing. Total enrollment now approaching 15,000.

Two folders in Wartime Living series distributed - "Farm Families and Total War," and "Farm Fires." Special mimeographed suggestions for Victory Corps members issued.

INDIANA (June 11). --To further cost-of-living campaign, conference of State staff was held to present general outline of situation, followed by district conferences throughout State to inform county workers. Agents asked to give activity immediate attention and to get information to rural people through neighborhood leaders and others assisting. Set of five charts furnished each agent, and 10,000 copies of multilithed outline prepared for leaders.

In fire prevention and control campaign two meetings of representatives of interested State organizations - Indiana Farm Bureau, State Forestry Department, State Fire Marshal's Office, Rural Fire Underwriters, State Superintendent Public Instruction, Purdue School of Engineering, Extension, AAA, Portland Cement Association - have been held, and two meetings of Extension staff. Extension will take lead in organizing effort in each county to carry out program. In each county committee will be appointed to survey situation, determine what is already being done, and make recommendations. Agricultural engineering department of university taking lead in organizing materials to be furnished by university. Fire Hazard Check List and spontaneous combustion circular prepared. Each county agent office to be furnished chart showing fire hazards in houses. Representatives fire underwriters organization very cooperative.

Hoosier Victory Garden activities for May in line with program for growing season, including garden tours and visits, arranging for garden exhibits, canning demonstrations. County enrollments range from 200 to 3,000. Timely circular letters sent to members. Demonstrations, meetings, radio, and publicity will continue to maintain interest in garden work. Cultural methods and insect and disease control emphasized. 100,000 copies "How to Fight Insects and Diseases in the Garden" will be distributed to all counties.

Leader-training meetings on producing profitable pullets held 49 counties, attendance 11,538.

KENTUCKY (June 15). --Agents participating actively in neighborhood delineation. As soon as finished, delineation maps will be used in completing neighborhood leader program. Much progress already made with community and neighborhood leaders numbering 40,000. One homemakers' club reported reaching over 500 non-club members with emergency information through their Victory leadership program in 1 month.

Inflation-control organization meetings held 100 counties. Community training meetings 79 counties. Entire State to be covered by early July. Literature issued includes Inflation Control, What Inflation Means to Farmers, Fight Against Inflation, Inflation Accompanies Great Wars, Training Rural Leaders for Control of Inflation, also price control information from USDA distributed.

County-wide meetings held for training food-preservation leaders, to be followed by community and neighborhood demonstrations. 55 live-at-home district conferences were attended by 1,235, and 2,500 community and neighborhood meetings attended by 65,000. Dairy leaders and poultry leaders also being trained.

Farmers growing hemp for seed assisted in hemp thinning, and mimeographed circular issued on subject.

To help farmers in their labor problems, labor requirements by months by types of farming areas have been reported in diagram and tabular form. Study given to possible use high school boys and girls on farms. Other factors investigated include better use machinery and cooperation in use labor and machinery.

Approximately 1 million pounds strawberries processed for shipment to Great Britain. Necessary contacts provided through aid of SCC. Processing done by Farmers Processors' Cooperative Association at Bowling Green, and Frozen Products Inc., Paducah.

NEBRASKA (June 15).--Practically every county has Victory Captains appointed each township, a man and woman, who are assisting in selecting and training neighborhood leaders in their respective areas. Leaders act as wardens, anti-inflation discussion leaders, purveyors of information on salvage. Other leaders will be selected as emergencies arise and need attention.

Some reports still coming in on Victory Garden sign-up. More than 93,225 have turned in cards. In cooperation with a glass manufacturing company a series of canning demonstrations planned for 28 counties. Plans under way for demonstrations on conserving food by freezing.

Cooperating with SCS on soil and moisture conservation. New demonstration farms being established and new soil conservation districts formed.

Through field demonstrations advancement being made in grain improvement. Meetings at demonstration plats causing farmers to realize necessity for securing good seed.

OREGON (June 1).--Neighborhood leader plan to reach every farm home in Oregon planned during May. Ultimate objective 900 community leaders and 7,200 neighborhood leaders serving 72,000 farm homes, and additional 4,600 nonfarm neighborhood leaders. At regional conference in Spokane May 18-19, four committees appointed from Extension staff to develop material for plan. Also committees appointed to organize educational program to control cost of living.

Farm labor subcommittees set up by Extension in cooperation U. S. Employment Service, made up primarily of farm leaders, functioning effectively in 35 of 36 counties. These committees called together in six district conferences during May. Cooperating with Employment Service to meet 3 critical farm labor problems - strawberry harvest in western Oregon, canning pea harvest in Umatilla County, and sugar beet thinning and blocking in Malheur and Umatilla Counties.

As outgrowth 6 district conferences, in cooperation State Grange, plans formulated for setting up farm transportation committee each county, to advise Interstate Commerce Commission and Office Defense Transportation on transportation agricultural commodities; develop cooperative transportation programs; and assist in initiating educational and action programs among farm people to solve agricultural transportation problems.

Training voluntary farm fire control crews neared completion during May. 113 training meetings held, attendance 1,828. County reports indicate 987 crews with more than 10,000 members completely organized and ready to meet emergencies.

Report on production appraisal and estimate 1943 production goals nearing completion.

Educational and leader training meetings on family food supply, nutrition clothing, home management, recreation, to assist homemakers in wartime programs conducted 24 counties with 848 meetings attended by 16,522.

Large increase in 4-H production clubs. 4-H Club summer session to be attended by more than 2,000 boys and girls. Members continue collecting scrap metal, rubber, sacks.

WYOMING (June 15).--Neighborhood leadership system being set up. Organization completed some counties; expected all counties organized by early July. In counties where leaders are beginning to work, inflation and its control and rubber campaign are live and important subjects with which they are helping. Appropriate recognition prepared and will be given to leaders appointed.

Organization for fire prevention and control gradually being developed all counties. Counties adjacent to or including national forests within their boundaries are well organized, and divided into zones with zone wardens and assistants. Agents cooperating with OCD and Forest Service.

County nutrition committees set up 18 counties in cooperation OCD. All home demonstration agents teaching Red Cross nutrition courses. Nutrition specialist cooperating with Public Health Service in survey 100 farm families one county to determine existing food habits as basis for nutrition work. Program of re-modeling women's garments to conserve wool and new fabrics meeting with excellent response.

4-H Clubs assisting in collecting scrap rubber.